



Sean Rogan
Executive Director

**HOUSING AUTHORITY
of the County of Los Angeles**

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Gloria Molina
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Michael D. Antonovich
Commissioners

May 11, 2010

The Honorable Board of Commissioners
Housing Authority of the
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Commissioners:

ADOPTED

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
HOUSING AUTHORITY

2-H MAY 11, 2010

SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**APPROVE THE RECEIPT OF FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY COORDINATOR GRANT FUNDING
FOR THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
(ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

This letter recommends acceptance of \$204,000 in grant funding for the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program, and incorporation of up to \$102,000 of these funds into the Housing Authority's approved Fiscal Year 2009-10 budget.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Authorize the Executive Director to accept \$204,000 in FSS Coordinator Grant funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and to incorporate up to \$102,000 of these funds into the Housing Authority's approved Fiscal Year 2009-10 budget.
2. Find that the receipt and incorporation of funds is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because the action is not defined as a project under CEQA and does not have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of this action is to accept \$204,000 in FSS Coordinator Grant funding and to incorporate up to \$102,000 into the Housing Authority's approved Fiscal Year 2009-2010 budget to cover FSS Coordinator administrative costs in the FSS Program.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There is no impact on the County general fund.

The Housing Authority has been awarded \$204,000 in FSS federal grant funding from HUD to cover FSS Coordinator administrative costs incurred in the FSS Program operated by the Housing Authority. Up to \$102,000 will be incorporated into the Housing Authority's approved Fiscal Year 2009-10 budget, and the remaining balance of \$102,000 will be requested through the Housing Authority's Fiscal Year 2010-11 annual budget process.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program is a HUD mandated program that requires public housing agencies (PHA) to develop strategies, such as job training, homeownership programs, scholarships, tuition reimbursement, childcare and transportation, to help Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher families obtain employment that will lead to economic independence and self-sufficiency.

The FSS escrow is a unique feature of the program whereby an interest-bearing FSS escrow account is established by the PHA for each participating family. Upon becoming employed, FSS participants continue to pay rent in accordance with the Housing Authority's housing choice voucher procedures. An escrow deposit, based on increases in earned income of the family, is credited to this account using HUD funds during the term of the FSS contract. If the family successfully completes the program, the family can apply to graduate from the program and receive the accrued portion of their escrow account.

Periodically, HUD provides FSS administrative funds to assist public housing agencies in achieving FSS goals. For calendar year 2010, the Housing Authority has been awarded two FSS Coordinator Grants to help cover the costs of existing FSS Coordinator positions. The two grant awards total \$204,000: one grant in the amount of \$136,000 and the other grant in the amount of \$68,000. The Housing Authority currently employs two FSS coordinators to manage this program. Historically, when available, the positions have been funded with FSS Coordinator grant funding from HUD, or with Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher administrative funding, both of which are received from HUD.

As of March 2010, 17 families have graduated from the Housing Authority's FSS program in the current Fiscal Year and the Housing Authority is currently providing FSS supportive services to 407 families.

On April 28, 2010, the Housing Commission recommended acceptance and incorporation of these funds into the Housing Authority's Fiscal Year 2009-10 budget.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

This action is exempt from the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act pursuant to 24 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 58, Section 58.34 (a)(3) because it involves administrative and management activities that will not have a physical impact on or result in any physical changes to the environment. The action is not subject to the provisions of CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines 15060(c)(3) and 15378 because it is not defined as a project under CEQA and does not have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The acceptance and incorporation of funds will enable the Housing Authority to continue administering the FSS program and continue providing supportive services to the 407 low and moderate-income Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher families currently enrolled under the FSS program.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean Rogan", followed by a horizontal line.

SEAN ROGAN
Executive Director

SR:lt